Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the claims as detailed below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. – 30. (Canceled)

31. (New) A method comprising:

generating by a sender device, a first packet with a control portion having a first identifier segment of a split identifier, the first identifier segment corresponding to a storage area of a target device remotely disposed across a network from the sender device;

generating by the sender device, a second packet with a control portion having a second identifier segment of the split identifier, the second identifier segment corresponding to a storage block of the storage area;

encapsulating by the sender device the second packet within the first packet; and

transmitting by the sender device, the first packet, with the encapsulated second packet, to the target device across the network.

32. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein the storage area is a partition of the target device.

33. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein the first identifier segment is an internet protocol address and the second identifier segment is a logical block address.

34. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein said generating by the sender device, the second packet further comprises:

providing by the sender device, an authentication token within the control portion of the second packet.

35. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein said generating by the sender device, the second packet further comprises:

providing by the sender device, data within a data portion of the second packet, the data portion being no larger than the storage block; and

providing by the sender device, a transfer command, within the control portion of the second packet, to transfer the data to the storage block.

36. (New) The method of claim 35, wherein execution of the transfer command is independent of packets other than the first packet and the second packet.

37. (New) The method of claim 35, wherein said generating by the sender device, the second packet is done by a first storage device and the data portion is no larger than a storage block of the first storage device.

38. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein said generating by the sender device, the second packet further comprises:

providing by the sender device, a request command, within the control portion of the second packet, to request data stored in the storage block.

39. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein said generating by the sender device, the second packet further comprises:

providing by the sender device, a lock command, within the control portion of the second packet, to instruct the target device to prevent subsequent access to the storage block.

40. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein the control portion of the second packet further includes one or more additional identifier segments that correspond to another target device and said generating the second packet further comprises:

providing a go transfer command, within the control portion of the second packet, to instruct the target device to transfer data within the storage block to the another target device.

41. (New) An apparatus comprising:

a controller configured

to generate a first packet with a control portion having a first identifier segment of a split identifier, the first identifier segment corresponding to a storage area of a target device remotely disposed from the apparatus across a network;

to generate a second packet with a control portion having a second identifier segment of the split identifier, the second identifier segment corresponding to a storage block of the storage area; and

to encapsulate the second packet within the first packet; and

a network interface coupled to the controller, and configured to transmit the first packet, with the encapsulated second packet, to the target device across the network.

42. (New) The apparatus of claim 41, wherein the controller is a redundant array of inexpensive disks (RAID) controller.

43. (New) The apparatus of claim 41, wherein the storage area is a partition of the target device.

44. (New) The apparatus of claim 41, wherein the first identifier segment is an internet protocol address and the second identifier segment is a logical block address.

45. (New) The apparatus of claim 41, wherein the controller is further configured to provide an authentication token within the control portion of the second packet.

46. (New) The apparatus of claim 41, wherein the controller is further configured to provide data, within a data portion of the second packet, the data portion being no larger than the storage block; and

to provide a transfer command, within the control portion of the second packet, to transfer the data to the storage block.

47. (New) The apparatus of claim 46, wherein execution of the transfer command is independent of packets other than the first packet and the second packet.

48. (New) The apparatus of claim 46, wherein the data portion is no larger than a storage block of the apparatus.

49. (New) A method comprising:

receiving, by a storage device from a network, a first packet with a second packet encapsulated therein, the first packet having a control portion with a first identifier segment of a split identifier and the second packet having a control portion with a second identifier segment of the split identifier and a command, the first identifier segment corresponding to a storage area of the storage device and the second identifier segment corresponding to a storage block of the storage area; and

executing by the storage device, the command with respect to the storage block.

50. (New) The method of claim 49, wherein the storage area is a partition of the storage device.

51. (New) The method of claim 49, wherein the first identifier segment is an internet protocol address and the second identifier segment is a logical block address.

52. (New) The method of claim 49, wherein the control portion of the second packet includes an authentication token and the method further comprises:

authenticating by the storage device, the authentication token; and

executing by the storage device, the command based at least in part on said authenticating the authentication token.

53. (New) The method of claim 49, wherein the second packet includes data within a data portion and said executing the command comprises:

transferring by the storage device, the data to the storage block.

54. (New) The method of claim 49, wherein said executing the command comprises:

accessing by the storage device, data stored in the storage block; and

transmitting by the storage device, the data to a device that transmitted the first packet.

55. (New) The method of claim 49, wherein the control portion of the second packet includes one or more additional identifier segments and said executing the command comprises:

accessing by the storage device, data stored in the storage block; and

transmitting by the storage device, the data to a device other than a device that transmitted the first packet.

56. (New) An apparatus comprising:

a network interface configured to receive a first packet with a second packet encapsulated therein, the first packet having a control portion with a first identifier segment of a split identifier and the second packet having a control portion with a second identifier segment of the split identifier and a command, the first identifier segment corresponding to a storage area of the apparatus and the second identifier segment corresponding to a storage block of the storage area; and

a storage element coupled to the network interface, and configured to execute the command with respect to the storage block.

57. (New) The apparatus of claim 56, wherein the storage area is a partition.

58. (New) The apparatus of claim 56, wherein the first identifier segment is an internet protocol address and the second identifier segment is a logical block address.

59. (New) The apparatus of claim 56, wherein the second packet includes data within a data portion and the storage element is configured to execute the command by being configured to

transfer by the storage element, the data to the storage block.

60. (New) The apparatus of claim 56, wherein the storage element is configured to execute the command by being configured to:

access by the storage element, data stored in the storage block; and

transmit by the storage element, the data to a device that transmitted the first packet.

61. (New) The apparatus of claim 56, wherein the control portion of the second packet includes one or more additional identifier segments and the storage element is configured to execute the command by being configured to:

access by the storage element, data stored in the storage block; and

transmit by the storage element, the data to a device other than a device that transmitted the first packet.

62. (New) An apparatus comprising:

means for generating a first packet with a control portion having a first identifier segment of a split identifier, the first identifier segment corresponding to a storage area of a target device remotely disposed across a network from the apparatus;

means for generating a second packet with a control portion having a second identifier segment of the split identifier, the second identifier segment corresponding to a storage block of the storage area;

means for encapsulating the second packet within the first packet; and

means for transmitting the first packet, with the encapsulated second packet, to the target device across the network.

63. (New) The apparatus of claim 62, wherein the storage area is a partition of the target device.

64. (New) The apparatus of claim 62, wherein the first identifier segment is an internet protocol address and the second identifier segment is a logical block address.

65. (New) The apparatus of claim 62, wherein said means for generating the second packet further comprises:

means for providing an authentication token within the control portion of the second packet.

66. (New) The apparatus of claim 62, wherein said means for generating the second packet further comprises:

means for providing data within a data portion of the second packet, the data portion being no larger than the storage block; and

means for providing a transfer command, within the control portion of the second packet, to transfer the data to the storage block.